

REMARKS

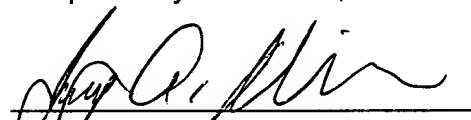
This application has been carefully reviewed in view of the above Office Action. While reviewing this application, it was noted that claim 28 inadvertently recites "method" in the preamble rather than "apparatus". This has been corrected.

The undersigned submits herewith a declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 swearing behind the effective date of the Vetro, et al. patent. Accordingly, the Vetro patent is unavailable as a reference against the present application. Reconsideration and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested at an early date.

The undersigned notes that many distinctions exist between the Vetro et al. reference and the invention as claimed. However, in view of the declaration submitted herewith, substantive discussion of these deficiencies is unnecessary. Failure to address the technical points raised in the Office Action should accordingly not be viewed as accession to any of the Examiner's positions with regard to the relevance of the Vetro et al. reference and its relevance to the claims of the present application.

No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim. Nor was any amendment made for purposes relating to the statutory requirements of patentability. In view of this communication, all claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,


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